Rail Traffic from Bangalore to Madurai and Tirunelvelli

1174. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the large demand from the people including merchants traders and industrialists for a rail route from Bangalore to Madurai and Tirunelvelli in Broadgauge line, Government propose to open the new Rail route for public; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1993-94.

Insurance Policy of Passenger by Railways

1175. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI P. UPENDRA:
DR. SANJAYA SINH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger insurance is being introduced by the Indian Railways from the next financial year;

(b) if so, the salient features of this policy and when it is likely to be introduced; and

(c) what provision in this regard is being made in the Railway Budget for the year 1993-94 to meet the insurance premium expenses indicating also the provisions made during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently under the provisions of Section 124 of the Railways Act, 1989, only the victims of passenger train accidents are entitled for compensation. The Railways, however, propose to provide an insurance scheme to cover incidents of deaths/injuries to bonafide passengers on account of terrorist attacks, dacoities, bomb blasts etc., including the railway staff travelling on duty or on railway passes.

The scheme is likely to be implemented by October, 1993.

(c) The annual premium to cover claim on above account is estimated to be approximately Rs. 8 crores. This amount will be provided in the year 1993-94 at the Revised Estimates stage. As the scheme itself has been proposed to be implemented from 1993-94, no provision for the same has been made in so far as the current year is concerned.

Railway lines to J&K, Punjab and Haryana

1176. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared a few railway lines to be constructed in J&K, Punjab and Haryana;

(b) if so, the names thereof;

(c) whether these lines will pass through Chandigarh;

(d) if not, whether Government propose to link Hissar with Chandigardh via Uklana, Narwana; and

(e) if so, the time by when the Super Fast train is likely to start on this route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Survey for a new line between Rajpura and Chandigarh has been included in the 1993-94 Railway Budget. Further action will depend on results of the survey and availability of resources in the coming years.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.